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SALE OF MILK FROM UNREGISTERED DAIRY.

CALIFORNIA COURT DECIDES THAT IF THE MILK COMPLIES WITH THE STATE LAW A CUSTOMER CAN NOT REFUSE TO PAY FOR IT BECAUSE THE DAIRY WAS NOT REGISTERED.

After a dispute between a California cheese manufacturer and a dairyman who had supplied him with milk the cheese manufacturer refused to pay for milk which he had used, on the ground that the dairy from which the milk was delivered was not registered with the State authorities as required by law. The purity of the milk was not questioned, and it complied with the standards established by the State law.

The California Court of Appeal decided that the law requiring registration of dairies did not provide any penalty for failure to register other than a fine or imprisonment; that the sale of the milk was not unlawful; and that it must be paid for.

The opinion is published in this issue of the Public Health Reports, page 2523.

POLIOMYELITIS (INFANTILE PARALYSIS).

PREVALENCE AS REPORTED BY STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENTS.

In the last two issues of the Public Health Reports there were published tables showing the number of cases of poliomyelitis reported during the summer in cities in which five or more cases had been reported during any one week. The following tabular statement shows the number of cases reported by State authorities. The data are taken from reports made by the respective State health departments. The figures show the number of cases notified and recorded. For some States these constitute but a fraction of the cases that occurred. In some States the prevalence of disease is not recorded, and for these no data are available, except for certain municipalities.

Poliomyelitis—Cases reported by States.

State.	Period covered.	Cases reported.
Alabama.....	July 1 to Aug. 31.....	99
Arizona.....	July 1.....	1
Arkansas.....	July 1 to 31.....	5
California.....	do.....	12
Colorado.....	Jan. 1 to Aug. 17.....	4
Connecticut.....	July 2 to Sept. 9.....	583
District of Columbia.....	July 8 to Sept. 13.....	30
Delaware.....	Reported Aug. 22.....	5
Idaho.....	July 10 to Aug. 9.....	2
Illinois.....	July 1 to Sept. 10.....	495
Indiana.....	July 1 to Sept. 9.....	72
Iowa.....	July 1 to 31.....	30
Kansas.....	July 1 to Aug. 18.....	22
Louisiana.....	Jan. 1 to Aug. 31.....	59
Maine.....	Jan. 1 to Aug. 21.....	14
Maryland.....	July 1 to Sept. 14.....	110
Massachusetts.....	July 1 to 31.....	107
Michigan.....	July 1 to Aug. 31.....	214
Minnesota.....	Jan. 1 to Sept. 9.....	581
Mississippi.....	July 1 to 31.....	37
Montana.....	July 1 to Sept. 12.....	58
Nebraska.....	Reported July 11.....	2
New Jersey.....	July 1 to Sept. 14.....	3,230
New York (exclusive of New York City).....	Jan. 1 to Sept. 9.....	2,592
Ohio.....	Jan. 1 to Aug. 15.....	166
Pennsylvania.....	July 1 to Aug. 11.....	273
Rhode Island.....	July 1 to 31.....	56
South Carolina.....	do.....	20
Tennessee.....	do.....	18
Texas.....	Jan. 1 to Aug. 10.....	30
Vermont.....	Aug. 1 to 31.....	8
Virginia.....	July 1 to Aug. 26.....	38
Washington.....	July 1 to 31.....	5
West Virginia.....	Aug. 1 to Sept. 9.....	15
Wisconsin.....	July 1 to Aug. 31.....	193

THE SEWAGE POLLUTION OF STREAMS.**ITS RELATION TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH.¹**

By W. H. FROST, Passed Assistant Surgeon, United States Public Health Service.

In every inhabited country the surface waters almost inevitably become more or less polluted with human excreta, but gross pollution of large streams, such as is now frequently encountered, results only where people are congregated in cities, discharging their wastes directly into watercourses through sewers, and these conditions are of comparatively recent development. This is especially the case in the United States, where many of the large cities have sprung up within a few decades; but even in the more densely populated European countries conditions of stream pollution have become much more serious within the last 50 to 100 years, with the development of sanitary sewerage.

A hundred years ago not even the great cities of Europe were provided with systematic and efficient sewerage systems for the removal of their wastes. They had sewers of some sort, but these were for the most part of erratic construction, designed more for surface drainage than for carrying away house wastes; and, indeed, the discharge

¹ Presented before the section on hygiene and sanitary science of the Ohio State Medical Association, Cleveland, Ohio, May 17, 1916.